

MINUTES OF THE MEETING  
OF THE CO-OPERATIVE COUNCIL  
OF AUSTRALIA (INC)  
HELD AT THE  
SYDNEY HILTON, 259 PITT STREET, SYDNEY  
ON 23 OCTOBER 1996

The Chairman declared the meeting open at 5.30pm.

PRESENT

Frank O'Connor	WA	Chairman
Tony Gill	Vic	
David Osgood	SA	
Jim Howard	Qld	
Lui Raiteri	Qld	
John Carstairs	WA	
John Booth	WA	
Don Kinnersley	NSW	
Jordan Rigby	NSW	

APOLOGIES

Nil

1 ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

It was agreed the that Agenda as circulated be adopted.

2 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The Minutes of the previous meeting held on 28 February 1996 were read and adopted.

3 BUSINESS ARISING

Research Unit

After general discussion the Council confirmed its positive attitude towards the general principle of establishing a research unit and agreed that there was currently insufficient information available to progress the matter any further.

Worker's Co-operatives

The Council confirmed that it is supportive of all types of co-operatives including Employee Shared Ownership Plants (ESOP) and Worker's Co-operatives.

4 CO-OPERATIVE ACT (VICTORIAN MODEL)

A discussion took place and it was noted that New South Wales did not anticipate making any changes to its existing Act until the effects of the Competition Policy is known.

## ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned for Mr Tim Dyce of the Asia Pacific Training Centre to deliver a report to the Council. Mr Dyce advised that seminars had been held in four states of Australia, Queensland, Western Australia, Victoria and New South Wales, during the last year and that the majority of the Centre's efforts have been directed to the organisation of seminars in the Asia Pacific region. He further advised that the Centre's preference in training was to work with individual co-operatives where their particular needs can be determined and courses moulded to suit those needs.

The Chairman thanked Mr Dyce for his attendance and updating the Council on the activities of the Asia Pacific Training Centre.

## THE MEETING RE-CONVENED

### 4 CONTINUED

The Council passed a vote of thanks to Mr Tony Gill and, through him, Ms Britt Maxwell of the Victorian Ministry of Fair Trading for their efforts in the development of the new Victorian Co-operatives Act.

### 5 ITEMS SUBMITTED BY QUEENSLAND

#### a) Section 120 (1) (c) Repeal

Mr Jim Howard advised that in discussions with Mr Costello it was agreed that his Department would review the proposals contained in the Federation's submission with the view of allowing more generous transitional provisions than are currently incorporated in the proposed Bill.

The Council approved the Chairman's action in writing to the Prime Minister, the Hon John Howard.

#### b) National Competition Policy and Trade Practices Act

It was agreed that New South Wales would keep a watching brief on any developments and that at the present time no collective action would be taken.

#### c) Chairmanship and Secretariat of Council

It was noted that in the recently adopted Constitution, the Chairman and Secretariat of the Council were appointed for a two year term.

#### d) Constitution of Council

It was noted that a new Constitution had been adopted at the Annual General Meeting of the Council, which was held prior to this meeting..

### 6 CORRESPONDENCE INWARDS

The fax dated 23 September 1996 from Queensland was noted.

The letters from the Centrosoyuz of the Russian Federation were noted.

7 CORRESPONDENCE OUTWARDS

It was noted that the letter to the Prime Minister, the Hon John Howard, October 1996 had been circulated.

The letter to the Justice Department of Victoria, September 1996 was noted.

8 GENERAL BUSINESS

a) Report by Mr Gill on enhancing the Co-operative Image

*Mr Kinnersley*  
Mr Gill tabled a report and advised that the Credit Unions did not want to be involved in the proposed campaign. Council agreed that the report be re-drafted to exclude the Credit Unions and be re-submitted at the next Council meeting. *Quintland is given the task of this*

b) E-Mail Address

Victoria advised that one of their members was sponsoring the Victorian Federation on the Internet and undertook to advise Council at its next meeting of the factors and costs involved in obtaining an E-Mail address.

c) Accounts for payment

The amount of \$39.00 for registering the name "Co-operative Council of Australia (Inc)" was approved for payment.

d) Re-purchase of Co-operative Shares

Mr Kinnersley advised the Council that legal action was being taken in New South Wales by a retrenched member of a Worker's Co-operative for his proportional share of the net assets of the Co-operative as distinct from the nominal value of his shares. Mr Kinnersley agreed to keep Council informed of any developments.

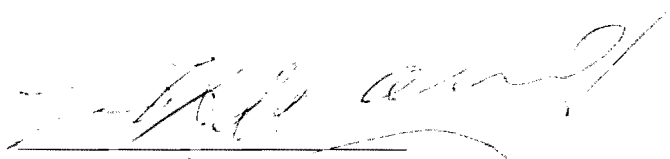
e) Agricultural Leaders Forum

The Council was advised that a successful Agricultural Leaders Forum was held as a fore-runner to the Key Issues Conference with 42 participants, discussing three topics.

CLOSURE

The meeting was declared closed at 7.45pm.

Confirmed as a correct record

  
Chairman  
*17/10/97*